

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LONDON 14115 241452Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-05 ACDA-07
OMB-01 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /105 W
-----033930 242112Z /41

R 241443Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7594
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCPACFLT
CINCPAC
COMIDEASTFOR
USDOCOSOUTH

S E C R E T LONDON 14115

DEFENSE FOR ASD/ISA, CJCS, CNO, DIA
CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: US UK IN MOPS OCLR
SUBJECT: NAVAL VISITS TO INDIA

REF: STATE 196482

1. IN CONSIDERING ISSUE RAISED PARA 5 REFTTEL, CONSENSUS
VIEW HERE AFFIRMS UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON FEELING THAT
ROYAL NAVY WOULD BE UNHAPPY IF LALL FORMULA IS RAISED
WITH GOI BEFORE RN HAS SECURED APPROVAL FOR PROPOSED
MARCH 1978 NAVAL VISIT.

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2. FEAR HERE IS THAT A US INITIATIVE WOULD AWAKEN A
"SLEEPING TIGER" AND HENCE JEOPARDIZE RN VISIT PLANS.
WHILE RN IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO ISSUE, ULTIMATE
HMG DECISION, OF COURSE, WOULD BE MADE AT HIGH POLICY
LEVEL.

3. WHILE RN CONSIDERS IT IS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT A

BRITISH VESSEL CARRYING NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD EVER
VISIT AN INDIAN PORT (HENCE MAKING IT A RELATIVELY
SIMPLE MATTER FOR HMG TO STATE THAT NONE WERE ABOARD),
UK POLICY WOULD BE TO FOLLOW A NCND LINE IF PUSHED ON
ISSUE BY GOI. BRITISH FEEL THAT THEIR PROCEDURE VIS-A-
VIS THE "LALL NOTE" IS SENSIBLE AND PRAGMATIC AND AS
PROCEDURE WAS DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH USG, WE
FEEL MINISTERS MOST CERTAINLY WOULD BE UNHAPPY TO HAVE
TO ACCOMMODATE A US DECISION TO DENY UK REQUEST FOR A
DELAY. THE FEELING HERE IS THAT PRESENT BRITISH POLICY
OF NCND REMAINS IN FORCE IN PART BECAUSE OF A DESIRE
NOT TO EMBARRASS THE US.

STREATOR

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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